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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mitsuhiro Watanabe

Docket: 13559

Serial No.: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

Dated: April 26, 2000

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

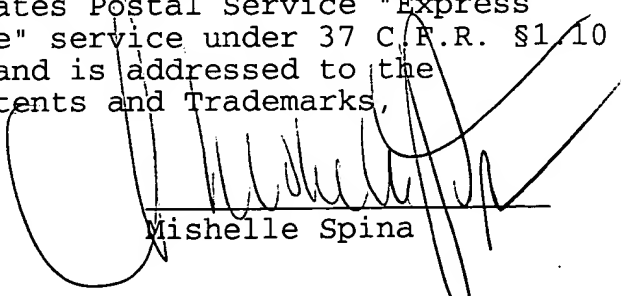
1. Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-240604 dated, September 11, 1998, along with English language abstract;
2. Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-021174 dated, January 23, 1998, along with English language abstract;

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

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Dated: April 26, 2000


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3. Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-207759 dated, August 7, 1998, along with English language abstract.

Applicant is submitting copies of the above-cited references. The relevance of the above-identified references has been described in the specification. Therefore, translations are not required.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no petition, certification or fee is required. Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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